#### WASHINGTON OFFICE:

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#### HAWAI'I OFFICE:

5104 PRINCE KUHIO FEDERAL BUILDING HONOLULU, HI 96850-4974 (808) 541-1986 FAX: (808) 538-0233

#### NEIGHBOR ISLAND TOLL FREE NUMBERS:

BIG ISLAND 935-3756 245-1951 KALIA'L / NI'IHALL 242-1818 MALI 565-7199 LANA'I MOLOKA'I 552-0160

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MOLOKA'I, O'AHU (WINDWARD, NORTH SHORE, CENTRAL, LEEWARD), KAUA'I AND NI'IHAU, AND NORTHWESTERN HAWAIIAN ISLANDS

January 2006

#### 2006 NATIVE HAWAIIAN REPORT

#### Dear Friend:

Representing our Hawai'i in Congress carries always the crucial obligation to pursue the perpetuation and prosperity of the Native Hawaiian people and culture. I welcome this responsibility not only as the U.S. Congressman from Hawai'i's Second Congressional District, home to more Native Hawaiians than any other congressional district nationwide, and as a member of a delegation charged with advocating in our federal government for Hawai'i, but as a national representative of the over 400,000 Native Hawaiians living throughout our country and world today. I do so in the belief that this is right not only for Native Hawaiians, but for all of us in our Hawai'i and nation.

From that perspective, I report what we all already know: that these are times of both great peril and opportunity for Native Hawaiians. The advances of the last quarter century on a whole range of fronts – from political to economic, legal, social, and cultural – toward longstanding goals such as resolution of claims, self-sufficiency, and self-determination – cannot be denied. Yet, as we all know, there are also growing efforts both nationally and at home to reverse these advances and undermine if not destroy the carefully-built foundations for our next generation's progress.

At the federal level, federal recognition for Native Hawaiians continues to be my single highest priority. Whether one supports or opposes the Akaka bill (S. 147/H.R. 309), the fact remains that continuing constitutional attacks on all federally created or sanctioned Native Hawaiian institutions and programs leave perpetually vulnerable the very underpinnings of current and future Native Hawaiian efforts, from the Hawaiian Homes Commission Act of 1920 to the Kamehameha Schools. I believe that federal recognition provides the best, if not only, overall structure with which to preserve these essential institutions and to move forward into the necessary next chapters together.

Equally important to my work in Congress are to: (1) continue to support or secure federal assistance for existing but often endangered and sometimes little-known programs that benefit Native Hawaiians (Native Hawaiian Education Act, Native Hawaiian Health Care Act, Native Hawaiian Culture and Arts Program, Hawaiian Home Lands programs, Native American Programs Act, etc.) and (2) fight for equal access for Native Hawaiians to federal programs,

#### COMMITTEES:

BUDGET

#### **AGRICULTURE**

LIVESTOCK AND HORTICULTURE (RANKING MEMBER)

CONSERVATION, CREDIT, RURAL DEVELOPMENT AND RESEARCH

#### SMALL BUSINESS

TAX, FINANCE AND EXPORTS

REGULATORY REFORM AND OVERSIGHT

RURAL ENTERPRISES, AGRICULTURE AND TECHNOLOGY

scholarships, and opportunities that traditionally target under-served or under-represented minority or indigenous populations.

I have been fortunate to have worked in Congress with many Native Hawaiians and organizations on these efforts, and believe that our mutual endeavors can best be advanced, going into what will surely be another very difficult congressional year, through a broader report to you on Native Hawaiian-specific matters. To this end, please find below a summary of just some of those issues and my efforts. I also tell you about my congressional office and how we can and want to help you, whether Native Hawaiian-related or otherwise.

Especially important for me is a quick survey of your or your organization's views and needs. This will be invaluable to me, and I appreciate your prompt response.

Finally, I emphasize my willingness to meet with you or your organization at our mutual convenience, as I have many times with many Native Hawaiian groups over the past three years. For me, nothing replaces this personal give and take, and I encourage you to contact my office through Esther Kia'aina, my Chief of Staff, to set up such a meeting and to ask me to participate in your events.

It is my great privilege to serve you and yours in our Congress. I truly look forward to continuing to work with you on our mutual efforts toward a better Hawai'i, country, and world.

With aloha,

Ed Case

ED CASE United States Congressman

# A. Selected Native Hawaiian Issues in the 109<sup>th</sup> Congress (2005-2006)

# 1. S. 147/H.R. 309, the Native Hawaiian Government Reorganization Act (the Akaka bill)

As noted above, federal recognition for Native Hawaiians continues to be my highest priority in Congress.

As you may know, Senators Daniel Akaka and Daniel Inouye reintroduced S. 147, legislation providing a process for federal recognition of Native Hawaiians, on January 25, 2005. Congressman Neil Abercrombie and I reintroduced companion legislation, H.R. 309, on the same day. S. 147 was favorably reported out of the Senate Indian Affairs Committee on March 9 and placed on the Senate Legislative Calendar on May 16.

At this moment, our collective efforts are devoted to having the bill considered as soon as possible. As you may recall, last July Senate Majority Leader Bill Frist filed a cloture petition on the motion to proceed to S. 147. Such a filing is necessary to cut off attempts to stop the

movement of a bill on the Senate floor. The vote on this motion was supposed to occur on September 6, 2005, but the vote was vitiated (called off) due to the consideration of relief measures in response to Hurricane Katrina. With the renewed commitment made by Senate Majority Leader Frist to Hawai'i's senators (see enclosed remarks in the December 21, 2005 *Congressional Record*), I am confident that a vote will be rescheduled in 2006. A successful vote, which would require 60 senators, will be followed by 30 hours of debate and a vote on the bill itself and potential amendments. Congressman Abercrombie and I hope to expeditiously pass the bill in the House assuming Senate passage of S. 147. On September 26, 2000, the House passed a similar version of the Akaka bill.

The Akaka bill would extend the time-honored federal policy of self-determination for indigenous peoples under U.S. jurisdiction to Native Hawaiians. It provides for federal recognition of Native Hawaiians, establishes an Office for Native Hawaiian Relations in the Department of Interior, and creates a federal interagency group to better coordinate policies and programs that address Native Hawaiians.

Enclosed please find a copy of my testimony, which I delivered in support of S. 147. Rest assured that I will continue to do all that I can to secure enactment of this bill.

# 2. Role of the U.S. Department of Interior

The U.S. Department of Interior has played a significant federal role in Hawai'i's affairs. Apart from general policy issues that address the authorization and management of our national parks, refuges, and historic sites, the Interior Department has also worked on endangered and invasive species efforts, coral reef protection, and control programs for the brown tree snake, among other issues.

The Interior Department also historically played an oversight role when Hawai'i was a territory (1900-1959) as well as when the Hawaiian Homes Commission Act of 1920 was administered by the federal government, which held title to Hawaiian home lands from 1921 until statehood in 1959.

Since statehood, the department has incrementally made progress on Native Hawaiian issues, largely prodded by Congress and the Native Hawaiian community. For example, the Interior Department started to designate a lead Interior official to address Hawaiian home land issues in response to recommendations from the 1983 Federal-State Task Force on the Hawaiian Homes Commission Act. The Interior Department has also administered federal acts that either included or benefited all Native Hawaiians like the National Historic Preservation Act, the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act, and the Native Hawaiian Culture and Arts Program.

In 1995, the Hawaiian Home Lands Recovery Act (P.L. 104-42) provided statutory authority for many Hawaiian home land responsibilities, including requiring that the Interior Department appoint an individual to: (1) advance the interests of HHL beneficiaries and (2) assist the beneficiaries and the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands in obtaining assistance from programs of the Department of the Interior and other federal agencies that will promote homesteading opportunities, economic self-sufficiency, and social well-being of the

beneficiaries. The department was also charged with implementing a land exchange process in recompense for the taking of Hawaiian home lands at Lualualei during Hawai'i's territorial period.

And finally, calls under the Apology Resolution (P.L. 103-150), followed by reconciliation efforts between the federal government and the larger Native Hawaiian community, culminated in a report by the U.S. Departments of Interior and Justice entitled, "From Mauka to Makai: The River of Justice Must Flow Freely, October 23, 2000." Among other things, the report recommended (1) federal recognition legislation for Native Hawaiians and (2) the establishment of an Office of Native Hawaiian Issues at the Interior Department.

While S. 147/H.R. 309 provides for the statutory authorization of an Office of Hawaiian Relations at the Interior Department, the Hawai'i Congressional delegation secured \$100,000 in FY 2004 for the department to move forward on the establishment of an office.

Most recently, Kaiini Kimo Kaloi was selected to be the Director of the Office of Hawaiian Relations in the Office of the Secretary at the Interior Department by the current administration. For further information on DOI's policies on Native Hawaiians, please call Mr. Kaloi at (202) 513-0712 or by e-mail Kaiini Kaloi@ios.doi.gov. Mailing Address: 1849 C Street, N.W., Mail Stop 4426, Washington, D.C. 20240.

#### 3. Education

Like many parents and teachers across Hawai'i, I continue to have concerns about the impact that the No Child Left Behind Act has had on all of Hawai'i's schools and programs, particularly the special needs of Native Hawaiian programs, including language and kupuna programs. I continue to support full funding for NCLB and have advocated for greater flexibility in the administration of the Act in Hawai'i's schools.

In trying to meet the educational needs of all Native Hawaiian students, I have also been a staunch proponent of our charter schools, including Native Hawaiian charter schools, and our Hawaiian language immersion programs. To that end, I have been working with the U.S. Department of Education to require that the State of Hawai'i provide Hawai'i's charter schools with their fair share of federal dollars. I also continue to support efforts to increase federal funds for Hawaiian language immersion programs under the Native Hawaiian Education Act, the Native American Languages Act, the Native American Programs Act, and other federal resources.

The Native Hawaiian Education Act, which was established by Senator Daniel Inouye in 1988, continues to be one of the most successful federal programs for Native Hawaiians. In recent years, the program has received approximately \$33-34 million annually for new and continuing multi-year grants. The purpose of the Act is to support innovative projects that enhance educational services to Native Hawaiian children and adults.

In March 2005, to address the need for greater outreach efforts to areas with significant Native Hawaiian populations on the Native Hawaiian Education Act, I conducted 10 workshops on Oʻahu, Molokaʻi, Kauaʻi, Maui, and Hawaiʻi Island, in conjunction with the U.S. Department of

Education and the Native Hawaiian Education Council. During the awarding of grants in August 2005, I was most pleased when institutions and programs along the Wai'anae Coast and on the island of Moloka'i received direct grants under the program. These included Nanaikapono Elementary School (Nanakuli); the Wai'anae High School Alumni and Community Foundation; Kaunanakakai Elementary School (Moloka'i); Kualapu'u Public Conversion Charter School (Moloka'i); and the Moloka'i Community Service Council.

For further information on the Native Hawaiian Education Act, which received \$34.25 million for FY 2006, please visit the U.S. Department of Education program website at <a href="http://www.ed.gov/programs/nathawaiian/index.html">http://www.ed.gov/programs/nathawaiian/index.html</a>. If you have any questions about the program, please also feel free to contact either one of its program officers: Francisco Ramirez at (202) 260-1541 or <a href="maintexaccurative-ged.gov">francisco.ramirez@ed.gov</a> or Beth Fine at (202) 260-1091 or beth.fine@ed.gov.

It is important to learn about the new requirements that will be required for the next grant competition in which applicants must use the new government-wide website, Grants.gov (<a href="http://grants.gov">http://grants.gov</a>), to apply. It is anticipated that USDOE will announce the FY 2006 competition by February 15, 2006, with a deadline for applications of April 17. All of this is subject to change, so it is important to keep in contact with USDOE officials. For new applicants, you may wish to review last year's application package for guidance by going to <a href="http://www.ed.gov/programs/nathawaiian/2005-362a.doc">http://www.ed.gov/programs/nathawaiian/2005-362a.doc</a>.

You can also contact Colin Kippen, Executive Director of the federally established Native Hawaiian Education Council at (808) 845-9883 for further information. Please visit the NHEC website at http://www.nhec.us or contact the organization via e-mail at nhec@hawaii.rr.com.

### 4. Housing

Hawai'i's escalating median housing prices on all islands continue to impact everyone, including our Native Hawaiian community. On the island of O'ahu, for example, the current median price for a single family home is well over \$600,000, and, for a condominium, over \$300,000.

While many affordable housing solutions rest in the hands of state and county officials (i.e., land use and zoning laws, developer requirements, or tax credits), the federal government does play a role in low-income and rural development housing and Hawaiian home lands issues.

With more homes being built or planned on all islands, the continuing success of the Hawaiian home lands program authorized by the Hawaiian Homes Commission Act of 1920, including most recently the efforts of current Chairman Micah Kane, has greatly assisted Hawai'i's housing needs.

One federal program that has been highly successful has been the Hawaiian Home Lands Homeownership Act, which was established in 2000 under the Native American Housing Assistance and Self-Determination Act (NAHASDA) to provide affordable housing opportunities to Native Hawaiians livings on Hawaiian home lands. On June 15, 2005,

I introduced H.R. 2912, legislation reauthorizing this important program. The Department of Hawaiian Home Lands, which administers the funds, receives approximately \$9 million annually for this program. Enclosed please find a copy of my floor statement on this legislation.

In a related matter, on November 10, 2005, the House of Representatives passed H.R. 3665, the Veterans Housing and Employment Improvement Act. The bill, which I cosponsored, addresses the critical housing needs of our Native American veterans, including our Native Hawaiians living on Hawaiian home lands. H.R. 3665, which is currently pending before the Senate Veterans Affairs Committee, provides permanent authority for the Native American Direct Home Loan Program and extends eligibility for such loans to non-Native Hawaiian spouses of Native Hawaiians living on Hawaiian home lands. I enclose a copy of my floor statement on this matter. Native Hawaiians not residing on Hawaiian home lands are already eligible to avail themselves of the traditional VA home loan program.

Useful Hawai'i contact numbers for housing and/or infrastructure include:

- U.S. Dept. of Housing and Development, Honolulu Office: (808) 522-8175 (<a href="http://www.hud.gov">http://www.hud.gov</a>); Contact on federal Hawaiian Home Land program: Claudine Allen
- U.S. Dept. of Agriculture Rural Development, Hawai'i State Office, Hilo (808) 933-8380; Honolulu (808) 483-8600 (<a href="http://www.rurdev.usda.gov">http://www.rurdev.usda.gov</a>)
- Rural Community Assistance Corporation, Honolulu: (808) 531-5700 or 531-5745 (<a href="http://www.rcac.org">http://www.rcac.org</a>)

### 5. Economic, Business, and Social Development

The promotion of employment opportunities and economic empowerment for Native Hawaiians, small businesses and organizations is key to social and economic self-sufficiency. As a member of the House Small Business Committee, I will continue to support efforts to increase funding and contracting opportunities to Native Hawaiian small businesses.

Individuals seeking jobs with our federal government, including in Hawai'i, are highly encouraged to visit the Office of Personnel Management's website at <a href="http://www.usajobs.gov">http://www.usajobs.gov</a>. College students may be interested in <a href="http://www.students.gov">http://www.usajobs.gov</a>. College students may be interested in <a href="http://www.students.gov">http://www.students.gov</a> for internships and employment opportunities. The Workforce Development Division of the Hawai'i State Department of Labor and Industrial Relations also has a useful website at <a href="http://hawaii.gov/labor/wdd">http://hawaii.gov/labor/wdd</a>.

Of course, Alu Like, Inc., which just celebrated its 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary of ably serving our Native Hawaiian community, has many programs federally funded which provide employment and job training opportunities. Please contact Alu Like at: (808) 535-6700 or at <a href="http://www.alulike.org">http://www.alulike.org</a>.

For businesses and organizations, there are also ample opportunities to receive federal assistance for business or economic development projects. Please contact the federal agencies or centers below or visit their respective websites. To learn more about how to do business with our federal government, please visit my website at <a href="http://www.house.gov/case">http://www.house.gov/case</a> and click on "business opportunities."

The Department of Health and Human Service's Administration for Native Americans (http://www.acf.dhhs.gov/programs/ana). The Administration for Native Americans has been one of the most successful federal programs for Native Hawaiians in promoting economic and social self-sufficiency. In DC, please contact Sheila Cooper, Director, Program Operations Division, toll free at (877) 922-9262 or <a href="mailto:scooper@acf.hhs.gov">scooper@acf.hhs.gov</a>.

In Hawai'i, the Council for Native Hawaiian Advancement (CNHA) is tasked with providing technical assistance for those seeking ANA grants. Please call CNHA at (808) 521-5011 or toll free (800) 709-2642 or visit its website at <a href="http://hawaiiancouncil.org">http://hawaiiancouncil.org</a> to find out about free grant training workshops on how to apply for grants from the Administration for Native Americans.

<u>Small Business Administration (http://www.sba.gov)</u> (808) 541-2990. Learn more about SBA's 8(a) Business Development Program which helps small disadvantaged businesses (http://www.sba.gov/8abd).

Small Business Development Center in Hilo (http://www.hawaii-sbdc.org) (808) 974-7515

The Commerce Department's Minority Business Development Agency (http://www.mbda.gov) also provides assistance to minority-owned businesses. Please call its Minority Business Development Center in Hawai'i at (808) 956-2498 or (808) 956-0850. Visit its website at <a href="http://www.honolulu-mbdc.org">http://www.honolulu-mbdc.org</a>.

The Commerce Department's Economic Development Administration (http://www.eda.gov). EDA's mission is to help communities empower themselves through economic development and revitalization strategies. Please call (808) 541-3391 for further information.

The USDA Rural Development Offices in Hawaii (http://www.rurdev.usda.gov) Hilo: 933-8330; Honolulu: 541-2600 ext. 104; Lihu'e: 245-9014; Wailuku: 244-3100; Kealakekua: 322-2484 ext. 194; Kaunakakai: 553-5321

#### 6. Protection of our Environment and Natural and Cultural Resources

Protecting Hawai'i's rich environment and its unique natural and cultural resources is clearly not only a uniquely Native Hawaiian endeavor, but crucial to Hawai'i's future. My goal is to work with our federal government and other government and private entities and individuals toward the broadest possible protections we can extend to our endangered islands.

For example, I continue to introduce legislation and seek funds to extend federal parks/refuge protection at Kilauea Point National Wildlife Refuge, Pu'uhonua o Honaunau National Historical Park, Kaloko-Honokohau National Historical Park, Kalaupapa National Historical Park, Haleakala National Park, Hawai'i Volcanoes National Park, and the James Campbell National Wildlife Refuge. In addition, I have been working to protect our highly threatened coastal areas from development or degradation of natural values, specifically Ka'u, the 'Ahihi-Kina'u - Kanaloa Point coastline in South Maui, and the North Maui coastline from Sprecklesville to Pai'a. Other areas of concern include Maha'ulepu on Kaua'i and Pupukea-Paumalu, Ka'ena Point, Waimea Valley, and Kawainui Marsh on O'ahu.

I also continue to support increased funding to (1) prevent introduction of and combat existing invasive species in Hawai'i, including the coqui frog, miconia, and the brown tree snake; and (2) preserve our endangered and threatened species in Hawai'i, including the 'alala (Hawaiian crow), the honu (green sea turtle) and honu'ea (hawksbill turtle), and the 'ilioholoikauaua (Hawaiian monk seal).

Just a little over a year ago, H.R. 2619, legislation I introduced to double the size of the Kilauea Point National Wildlife Refuge, was enacted into law on December 23, 2004. I was also a cosponsor of H.R. 3479, the Brown Tree Snake Control and Eradication Act, which also became law in 2004. The law authorized \$15.5 million annually through the Departments of Interior and Agriculture in combating the brown tree snake and preventing its introduction into Hawai'i.

During the 109<sup>th</sup> Congress, I have introduced the following legislation and continue to work with my Congressional colleagues to move these bills forward. Please let me know if you'd like additional information on any of these initiatives.

- H.R. 2376 legislation creating the nation's first National Marine Refuge in the Northwestern Hawaiian Islands
- H.R. 4529 legislation providing for the establishment of a memorial within Kalaupapa National Historical Park to honor and perpetuate the memory of those individuals who were forcibly relocated to the Kalaupapa Peninsula from 1866 to 1969
- H.R. 3468 legislation to protect Hawai'i's precious natural heritage by requiring that the Interior and Agriculture Departments expand federal efforts to prevent the introduction to Hawai'i of invasive species or of anything that could serve as the host for a new disease or pest
- H.R. 3469 comprehensive legislation to protect coral reefs in Hawai'i, in the United States, and in developing countries (particularly the South Pacific)
- H.R. 3537 legislation to extend the boundary of Hawai'i Volcanoes National Park
- H.R. 3538 legislation directing the Interior Secretary to study the suitability and feasibility of designating certain lands along the southern coast of Maui as a unit of the National Park System; and
- H.R. 3539 legislation directing the Interior Secretary to study the suitability and feasibility of designating certain lands along the northern coast of Maui as a unit of the National Park System

I have also requested a reconnaissance survey of the Ka'u coastline to determine its suitability for designation as a National Seashore or National Park. Such designation is our best chance of preserving this unspoiled coastline for future generations. In the meantime, I am supporting efforts by the community, local government, the Trust for Public Land, and the Nature Conservancy to move ahead on preservation of especially vulnerable areas like Honu'apo and Punalu'u. I am also very involved in what now appears to have been a successful effort to bring together our federal government and other partners in the permanent protection of Waimea Valley.

#### **B.** Your Congressional Office

#### 1. Office Mission and Resources

Overall, my job is to represent the people of my district and our Hawai'i in our federal government to the best of my ability. That means being your voice on the great issues of our day, Native Hawaiian-related and otherwise, listening to your concerns, letting you know what your government is doing, and helping you on your individual problems whenever and however I can.

I have a full-service congressional office in Washington, D.C. and throughout my Hawai'i district to assist me in performing my duties. More information on my office and activities and opportunities can be found on my website at http://www.house.gov/case.

Hawai'i Office

Honolulu, HI 96850

Fax: (808) 538-0233

Phone: (808) 541-1986

5104 Prince Kuhio Federal Building

#### 2. Contact Information

This is how you can contact me and my office:

Washington Office

115 Cannon House Office Building

Washington, DC 20515 Phone: (202) 225-4906

Fax: (202) 225-4987

Neighbor Island Toll Free Numbers

Hawai'i Island: 935-3756 Kaua'i/Ni'ihau: 245-1951

Maui: 242-1818 Lana'i: 565-7199 Moloka'i: 552-0160

e-mail: ed.case@mail.house.gov

3. Your Issues, Thoughts and Concerns

I'd very much like you to contact me with any thoughts, questions, comments or concerns facing you and your community. Also, please feel free to contact any of my staff, particularly my Chief of Staff and Policy Adviser on Native Hawaiian issues, a graduate of the Kamehameha Schools, Esther Kia'aina, at either (202) 225-4906 or esther.kiaaina@mail.house.gov. The contact information for my entire staff and a list of their issue areas can also be found at http://www.house.gov/case/staff.html.

#### 4. Casework

A vital part of my efforts on behalf of Hawai'i citizens is what we refer to as "casework", which means our undertaking to help you with individual issues, especially those involving our federal government. These issues can range from immigration to housing, Social Security, Medicare,

and veterans benefits. We welcome your contacting us to see how we might be able to assist you with these matters. Please feel free to contact my casework specialists, Jackie Conant and Liane Ashikawa, directly.

# 5. Signup for Congressional E-mail Newsletter

I use an e-newsletter to provide frequent updates about what's happening in Washington D.C. as well as my 2nd Congressional District and to ask for input. If you haven't signed up and would like to receive these e-mails, please log onto my website at

http://www.house.gov/case/email\_list.html, or you can call or e-mail at the above contacts to be put on our list. I may occasionally ask you to fill out electronic surveys, but I will never release your contact information to anyone else. If you have already signed up, thank you; you do not need to submit your name again.

#### 6. Other Federal Grants and Resources

There are many opportunities for federal grants and other assistance for Native Hawaiians and organizations. You can go to my website (<a href="http://www.house.gov/case">http://www.house.gov/case</a>) for information on such grants and resources and other aspects of our federal government. There, for example, you can sign up for federal grant notifications and you will find contact information for federal offices in Hawai'i, resources compiled by the Congressional Research Service, and a link to the Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance (<a href="http://www.cfda.gov">http://www.cfda.gov</a>). This Catalog includes a listing of about 1,500 federal grant and assistance programs and includes a useful search engine. I also recommend that you check out <a href="http://grants.gov">http://grants.gov</a>. Here you can electronically find and apply for the most current competitive grant opportunities from all federal agencies.

### 7. Keeping in Touch

Staying in touch with you and our Native Hawaiian community is essential not only to recognizing your invaluable contributions, but to representing you in Congress both individually and collectively and to assisting with Hawai'i-specific challenges. I have been fortunate now to join you and speak at many Native Hawaiian events statewide, and other ceremonies, or meetings with individual organizations and your members, or otherwise.

My Talk Story community meetings districtwide have also been invaluable to keeping up on community and state issues and to gaining input on the national and international issues I face in Congress. I did 50 in 2005 throughout Hawai'i as well as with Hawai'i's own 29<sup>th</sup> Brigade Combat Team in Fort Polk, Louisiana and Balad, Iraq, to go with the 80 I did in the 108<sup>th</sup> Congress (2003-2004).

My point here is that we can accomplish more together, and I can focus on your needs better if and as we stay in touch. I am always willing to try to work into my schedule a meeting with you and yours or attendance at an important event, and encourage you to call on me for such needs and opportunities. Please contact Roberta Weatherford in my Honolulu office at (808) 541-1986 or by e-mail at <a href="mailto:roberta.weatherford@mail.house.gov">roberta.weatherford@mail.house.gov</a>.

## C. This Report Online

For your convenience and use, I have placed a copy of this report online under the newsletter section of my website at <a href="http://www.house.gov/case/newsletter.html">http://www.house.gov/case/newsletter.html</a>.

# D. Native Hawaiian Community Survey

To better understand and serve your needs and the overall needs of our Native Hawaiian community, I have attached a short survey. I have included my address on the back of this sheet, so when you are finished, just fold the survey in half, tape it closed, and stamp and mail. Or fax it to my office at 808-538-0233. In the alternative, you can also e-mail your response to me c/o Esther Kia'aina at <a href="mailto:esther.kiaaina@mail.house.gov">esther.kiaaina@mail.house.gov</a>. I greatly appreciate your time and input.

# CONGRESSMAN ED CASE 2006 NATIVE HAWAIIAN COMMUNITY SURVEY

(Op	tional)	Name: Address: E-mail:
	What Nati ortant to y	ve Hawaiian and/or non-Native Hawaiian issues at the federal level are most ou?
		believe our federal government can or will continue to provide federal benefits to ians without resolving the political status (self-determination) of Native
3. gove		nd of assistance would you like to see extended or improved between the federal nd Native Hawaiians?
4.	Please lis	et any other questions, needs or concerns on Native Hawaiian issues.

Congressman Ed Case ATTN: Esther Kia'aina 5-104 Prince Kuhio Federal Building Honolulu, HI 96813